LIBRARY

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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- R E P O R T -

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1947.

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CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council	W.E. Hawthorne, Esq., J.P.
Vice-Chairman	Mr. L.J. Wiles.
Chairman of the Public Health Committee.	Mr. D. White.
Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee...	Mrs. F. Ballance.

Public Health Staff.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Duncan T. McAinsh, M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B.
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

G. Richardson, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B.,
Certificate for Meat and Food Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

V. W. Vickers, M.S.I.A. (From 1st May, 1947).

CLERKS.

Miss K. M. Brindley. (From 6th January,1947).

Brian Phillips.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Cannock Rural District Council:-

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1947 on the health and sanitary conditions of the District: this includes a report by the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

While the Birth at 20.18 per 1,000 population was practically the same as for the country as a whole, the Death Rate at 8.67 was appreciably lower than the rate for the country.

Five cases of Diphtheria were notified, this being a low record for the district: the corresponding numbers for 1939 and 1940 were 75 and 64. There was 1 death from Diphtheria, this being in a child who had not been immunised.

There was an outbreak of Measles in the year, the main incidence of cases being in Essington, Great Wyrley and Penkridge.

There were more cases of Scarlet Fever than in the preceding 3 years, the majority of the cases being from Great Wyrley.

The type both of Measles and of Scarlet Fever was not severe.

Under the National Health Service Act which comes completely into operation on 5th July, 1948, there will be considerable changes in administration of health services e.g. the ambulance service and the immunisation against Diphtheria will be administered by the County Council as Local Health Authority.

I am again deeply grateful to you, Mr. Chairman and to the members of the Council for the consideration you have shown me during the past year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

Duncan T. McAinsh.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

2nd July, 1948.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (in acres) 55,256 - unchanged.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population 23,540.

Number of inhabited houses according to the rate book 6093.

Rateable Value as at 31.3.48 £94,905 and a penny rate produces £374.10.7.

BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Live Births.	239.	236.	475.
Legitimate.	230.	225.	455.
Illegitimate.	9.	11.	20.
Total Still Births.	4.	2.	6.
Legitimate.	4.	2.	6.
Illegitimate.	-	-	-

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district 20.18.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales 20.5.

Still Births 12.47 per 1,000 total (live & still) Births.
Still Birth rate .25 per 1,000 population.
Still Birth rate England and Wales .50 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS.

Total:- 204. Male 109. Female 95.

Local Adjusted Death Rate 8.67 per 1,000 population.
Death Rate for England and Wales 12.0 per 1,000 population.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the country was 1.17 per 1,000 total Births (live & still).

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the district was 4.16 per 1,000 total Births (live & still).

The Main Causes of Death over the past three years were:-

	1947.	1946.	1945.
Diseases of Heart & Circulation ...	76.	91.	96.
Respiratory Diseases	23.	36.	35.
Malignant Disease	28.	37.	35.
Violence, including suicide... ...	9.	8.	13.
Malformation & Premature Births ...	11.	10.	14.
Tuberculosis...	6.	11.	11.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:- 18, one of which was illegitimate.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births..... 37.42
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..... 35.79
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births... 50

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... 0.
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) 0.
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years) 1.

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA AND PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS 1938 - 1947.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
1938.	105.	46.	37.
1939.	43.	75.	36.
1940.	35.	64.	37.
1941.	67.	26.	26.
1942.	80.	40.	32.
1943.	87.	29.	41.
1944.	39.	31.	26.
1945.	28.	29.	14.
1946.	22.	11.	25.
1947.	58.	5.	24.

IMMUNISATION OF CHILDREN AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

	Age up to 5 years.	5 years to 14 years. (Both inclusive).
1941.	542.	689.
1942.	608.	150.
1943.	450.	807.
1944.	248.	6.
1945.	263.	15.
1946.	277.	53.
1947.	288.	90.

During the year 120 children were given a secondary or reinforcing injection (having already had a complete course).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1947.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	58	43	-
Diphtheria.....	5	5	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	1	-
Erysipelas.....	5	-	-
Pneumonia.....	24	2	7
Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum...	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis....	3	3	1
Sonne Dysentary.....	1	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	60	2	-
Measles.....	337	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS YEAR 1947.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 year.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and upwards.....	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 "	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
10 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 "	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 "	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 "	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 "	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
45 "	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
55 "	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS.	10	6	1	2	4	2	-	-

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS CASES IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

PARISH.	DIPHTHERIA.	SCARLET FEVER.	MEASLES.	WHOOPING COUGH.
Brewood.	-	-	9	2
Cheslyn Hay.	1	6	14	6
Shareshill.	-	2	3	5
Essington.	-	10	117	14
Featherstone.	-	1	7	6
Great Wyrley.	1	27	74	16
Huntington.	1	7	6	1
Penkridge.	2	-	66	2
Stretton.	-	-	1	5
Hatherton.	-	1	3	-
Acton & Bednall.	-	-	7	-
Lapley.	-	-	1	-
Laredon.	-	1	1	2
Teddesley Hay.	-	3	-	-
Blymhill.	-	-	12	1
Coppenhall.	-	-	1	-
Dunston.	-	-	15	-
TOTALS.	5	58	337	60

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The ambulance provided by Cannock R. D. C. continued to give service during the year.

Among other work patients were taken to and from the following Hospitals:-

58 cases removed to Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.
13 cases removed from Wolverhampton Royal Hospital.
27 cases removed to Stafford Infirmary.
3 cases removed from Stafford Infirmary.
29 cases removed to Walsall General Hospital.
4 cases removed from Walsall General Hospital.
17 cases removed to Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.
9 cases removed from Women's Hospital, Wolverhampton.
47 cases removed to Cheslyn Hay Isolation Hospital.
1 case removed from Cheslyn Hay Isolation Hospital.
9 cases removed to Cannock P. A. Hospital.
1 case removed to Sedgley P. A. Hospital.
1 case removed to Lichfield P. A. Hospital.
7 cases removed to Stafford P. A. Hospital.
2 cases removed to Q. V. N. I., Wolverhampton.
2 cases removed to Burton House, Sedgley.
1 case removed from Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.
3 cases removed to Wissage Isolation Hospital, Lichfield.
1 case removed from Birmingham General Hospital.
1 case removed to Sick Bay, Brinsford Lodge, Featherstone.
1 case removed to Newcastle Isolation Hospital.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS AND WELFARE CLINICS IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

These clinics are under the arrangement of Staffordshire County Council:-

Child Welfare Clinics:-

Brewood and Featherstone each week.
Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Great Wyrley, Huntington.
Wheaton Aston and Penkridge - Fortnightly.

Ante-Natal Clinics:-

Featherstone and Great Wyrley - Fortnightly.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Summary of Inspections and Work done during 1947.

Number of houses inspected for repairs	523.	
Re-inspections, calls etc.	329.	
Nuisances found	46.	
Nuisances abated	31.	
Slaughterhouse Licences renewed	15.	
Meat & Food Inspections	26.	
Cowsheds and Dairies Inspected	64.	
Petrol Licences renewed	40.	
New Petrol Licences granted	7.	
Carbide Licences renewed	1.	
Drainage work examined	55.	
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated	71.	
Cases of Infectious Disease removed	53.	
Houses disinfected after Infectious cases	71.	
Reports of Infectious cases to M.O.H. (excluding T.B.)	493.	
New licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	4.	
Renewal Licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	33.	
Informal Notices issued	159.	(Affecting 229 houses)
Statutory Notices issued	6.	(Affecting 5 houses)
Number of Privies converted to Water Closets	7.	
Water samples taken.....Chemical	80.	
.....Bacteriological	80.	
Pan Lavatories substituted for Privy Middens	2.	

	Pasteurised.	Tuberculin Tested.	Accredited.
Supplementary Milk Licences.	2.	1.	-
Dealers Licence.	-	1.	1.
Pasteurisers Licence.			

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The Housing Survey was greatly slowed down during the year, owing to shortage of inspectoral staff; Mr. V.W.Vickers the Additional Sanitary Inspector did not take up duties until May 1st.

Of the houses inspected 4.75% are considered to be totally unfit for habitation.

The results of the survey are as follows:-

Classification. The houses are placed in classes which correspond broadly to those provided for under the Housing Acts and the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts namely:-

1. Satisfactory in all respects.	136.
2. Minor Defects.	16.
3. Repair structural alteration or improvement.	26.
4. Reconditioning (Rural Workers Acts)	-
5. Demolition.	9.
Total -	187

Statutory Notices. 5 Statutory Notices have been served affecting 5 houses, 4 of which requiring provision of adequate closet accommodation and Dustbins.

Informal Notices. Some 159 Informal Notices have been served affecting some 229 houses, these are served mainly on Class 2 and 3 houses requiring urgent repairs to be carried out and on Class 4 and 5 only to maintain them in a weatherproof condition.

Overcrowding. The survey revealed that in 2 cases the number of people occupying a house is in excess of the permitted number. This represents 1.069% of the houses inspected.

(It should be noted that figures quoted in this report refer only to the year 1947).

ANTHRAX

During the year 16 suspected cases of Anthrax were reported compared with 18 in the previous year.

WATER SAMPLES

The chief water supplies in the district remain the same and are obtained from the South Staffordshire Water Works Co., and the Wolverhampton Corporation which supply Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Huntington, Hatherton, Penkridge and the larger portions of the parishes of Brewood, Stretton, Essington, Shareshill, Featherstone, Hilton, Lapley, Wheaton Aston and Saredon. The Stafford Corporation supplies Coppenhall and Dunston.

80 samples of non-piped water and 8 samples of piped water have been taken.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year Public Cleansing by direct labour was continued in the parishes of Brewood, Penkridge, Stretton, Huntington, Acton Trussell, Bednall, Lapley and the villages of Weston-under-Lizard, Brineton, Blymhill and Coppenhall.

Commencing April 1st 1947 the Council took over control of the Refuse Collection from your contractor in the parishes of Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Essington, Shareshill, Saredon, Hilton, Featherstone and Hatherton.

It is felt that mention should be made of the great difficulty of maintaining a perfect service in a district such as this, but it is claimed that, under conditions prevailing, work of refuse collection has been done satisfactorily.

CESSPOOLS.

The emptying of Cesspools in the parishes of Brewood, Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Saredon, Essington, Huntington, Featherstone, Hilton, Shareshill and Hatherton, was done as in the previous years by the Council's Cesspool Emptier.

The 402 Cesspools in these parishes were emptied on an average, 6 times per year with the exception of those at the Terrace, Wood Lane and Jacobs Hall Lane, which were emptied when ever possible fortnightly.

In addition there are approximately 150 Cesspools in the other parishes which do not receive attention by this Council excepting in extreme circustances, and for this reason the Council have agreed to order a second Cesspool Emptier so as to improve the Cesspool Emptying service.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

Services Undertaken.

PARISH.	ASHES.	PANS.	PRIVIES.	CESSPOOLS
Brewood.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Great Wyrley.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cheslyn Hay.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hatherton.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Saredon.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Featherstone.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stretton.	Yes	-	-	-
Huntington.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hilton.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Essington.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Acton & Bednall.	Yes	Yes	-	-
Coppenhall.	Yes	-	-	-
Blymhill.	Yes	-	-	-
Teddesley.	-	-	-	-
Weston-under-Lizard	Yes	-	-	-
Shareshill.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Penkridge.	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Lapley.	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
Dunston.	Yes	-	-	-

EQUIPMENT AND STAFF.

4. Covered refuse motor lorries.
1. Cesspool Emptier.
1. Salvage Motor Van.
Staff. Normally 25.